Rc: Petition P3-03

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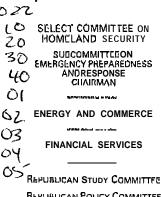
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House of Representations ARITIME COMM

Washington, DC 20515-0304

September 15, 2003



REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE ASSISTANT WHIP STELRING COMMITTEE

Commission Secretary Bryant L, VanBrakle Members of the Commission Federal Maritime Commission 800 North Capitol Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20573-0001

Dear Secretary VanBrakle and Commissioners:

United Parcel Service (UPS) has become the world's largest provider of package delivery. Since 1907, UPS has excelled al customer service and has been a driving force of the economic engine of both small and large businesses. As you are aware, UPS provides ocean shipping services to its customers operating as a Non-Vessel Operating Common Carrier (NVOCC).

The Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 1998 amended the Shipping Act of 1984 to state that all NVOCC commercial shipping rates must be published and all terms must be made available, thus providing a competitive advantage to vessel operators by maintaining most of their contract terms confidential. Recently, UPS filed for an exemption from the prohibition on NVOCCs from entering into confidential contracts with their customers. Kequesting the ability to offer confidential service contracts provides a remedy to the regulatory differences that exist between NVOCC's and Vessel Operating Common Carriers (VOCC). UPS notes that the exemption will enhance international commerce flow and benefit both shippers and customers.

Based upon the growth of VOCC's and their direct competition with NVOCC's, UPS's exemption request will level the playing field to allow fair competition. UPS's operation of one of the most integrated, intermodal transportation networks in the world encompassing air, rail, surface, and NVOCC transportation solidify the need for the requested exemption.

Due to the recent changes in the level of competition in the ocean shipping marketplace, I support UPS's petition and encourage consideration of the merits of the petition by the Federal Maritime Commission.

Arizona 3<sup>rd</sup> District

U.S. House of Representatives



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## **CONGRESSMAN JOHN SHADEGG**

## Fax Cover Sheet

To: Commission Secretary Bryant L. VanBrakle – Federal Maritime Commission	Date: 9/15/03
Fax #: (202) 523-0014	Phone #: (202) 523-5725
From: James Ashley	
Regarding: UPS Petition P3-03	
Priority:e1-1"c	Response:
Deadline:	Pages: 2
Comments:	You

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